रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०सी० लेंका): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

पटना, बिहार में पूर्वी रेलवे के महाप्रबन्धक के कार्यालय का खोला जाना

2940. श्री ब्रह्मदेव आनन्द पासवान: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वी रेलवे की लाइनों का अधिकांश भाग बिहार में है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पूर्वी रेलवे के महाप्रबन्धक का कार्यालय बिहार की राजधानी पटना में खोले जाने का क्या औचित्य है; और

(ग) यदि उपर्युक्त भाग (क) और (ख) का उत्तर "हां" हो, तो क्या सरकार का पूर्वी रेलवे के कार्यकरण में तीव्रता लाने के लिये उक्त कार्यालय को पटना में खोलने का प्रस्ताव है, यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०सी० लेंका): (क) पूर्व रेलवे, जिसके अन्तर्गत बिहार, मध्य-प्रदेश, उत्तर प्रदेश और पश्चिम बंगाल राज्य आते हैं, की कुल मार्ग किलोमीटर दूरी 4303 कि०मी० है जिसमें से 2069 कि०मी० मार्ग बिहार राज्य में है।

(ख) और (ग) किसी क्षेत्रीय रेलवे मुख्यालय के स्थान का निर्धारण किफायत और कार्य-कुशलता की आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप रेलों की परिचालनिक और प्रशासनिक अपेक्षाओं के आधार पर किया जाता है। इन बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए रेल सुधार समिति ने, भारतीय रेलों पर पुनर्गठन से संबंधित समस्त मामलों की गहराई से जांच करने के बाद, पटना में क्षेत्रीय रेल मुख्यालय की स्थापना की सिफारिश नहीं की। इसके अतिरिक्त मौजूदा वित्तीय तंगियों के कारण भी किसी नए क्षेत्रीय रेल मुख्यालय के सृजन की संभावना नहीं है।

Book stall holder at Railway Stations

2941. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy framed-out by Government to appoint bookstall holders at Stations;

(b) what is the number of book-stalls held by various individuals on the Railway Stations in Railway network Station-wise, name-wise together details thereof;

(c) what is the amount of profits earned by Government and Book Stall holders in each calendar year during the last three years; and

(d) what is the rate of commission which has been fixed for each book-stall holders by Publishers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) As per extant policy, all new bookstalls contractors are reserved for unemployed graduates their co-operatives, partnerships, associations and co-operative societies of actual workers and vendors, selected by the Zonal Railways after following the prescribed procedure and guidelines.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) This is an arrangement which is settled between the bookstall licences and the Publishers.

Resumption of work by Konkan Railway on disputed sector

2942. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Konkan Railway has resumed work on the disputed 52 Km. sector between Mayhem and Balli and if so, whether the Central Government would prevail upon the State Government for expeditious acquisition of land for laying tracks and embankments; and

(b) whether Government would ensure the completion and commissioning of the link on schedule after having mobilised adequate funds for the project through floating of bonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir. The lands required for laying tracks have been already taken possession through the State Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Cancellation on trains on the Delhi-Rewari Sector

2943. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways have cancelled some passenger trains on the Delhi-Rewari sector;

(b) whether the trains have been cancelled without prior notice and without any alternative arrangements for carrying the passengers; and

(c) whether Government are thinking of restoring the train services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Some services have already been restored and/or replaced by Broad Gauge services. Restoration and/or replacement by Broad Gauge services of the remaining trains will be considered subject to traffic requirements and the facilities available.

Extension of Navjeevan Express

2944. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered extension of Navjeevan Express upto Hapa (Jam Nagar) in Gujarat;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it would be extended; and

(c) what would be the number of prorata reservation quota allotment to Rajkot and Hapa Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Extension of 6045/6046 Navjeevan Express upto Hapa (Jam Nagar) has been examined but found either commercially justified nor feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of Railways into independent holding company

2945. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for conversion of the railways into an independent holding company under the Company's Act and splitting of various zonal railways into smaller units; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that flow of high technology inputs into the Railways has virtually dried up since the early 1960's if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to meet the needs for massive infusion of technology inputs in almost all areas of railway operation with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise. However, technology improvements is an on-going process on Indian Railways. Some of the major technology inputs since 1960 pertain to Diesalisation and Electrification of Indian Railways, new designs of Rolling stock, continuous welded rails, colour light signalling, Route relay interlocking, Mechanised maintenance of track, Fitment of Air Brakes, Steel casting technology,